



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

Region III
841 Chestnut Building
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19107

MAR 11 1994

102749

[REDACTED]
136 Owen Avenue
Lansdowne, PA 19050

Dear [REDACTED]

At meetings in the Lansdowne Borough Hall on March 1, 1994, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) discussed the Austin Avenue Radiation Site revised Proposed Remedial Action Plan (PRAP) with the property owners and with public officials. Concern was expressed by several individuals that the affected property owners would not be able to make an informed choice between Alternative 3A (onsite replacement of the structures) and Alternative 3B (offsite relocation) because the property owners would not be adequately advised regarding the actual replacement structure that would be available to them if they were to choose the onsite replacement option.

In response to this concern, we have consulted with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and its contractor that is designing the cleanup action for EPA. We have confirmed that the cost estimates shown in Table I (page 21) of the revised PRAP are for the replacement of the structures maintaining their current architectural character and "curb appeal." In effect, the new replacement houses would look as similar to the current houses as practicable following the cleanup. They would, of course, be built with modern materials, modern construction methodologies, and to existing municipal construction codes. It should be noted, however, that certain interior and exterior design changes might be necessary in order to meet existing codes, and to accommodate modern construction materials and methods. For example, current stone foundation walls would be replaced with alternate masonry construction.

We hope that this serves to clarify this matter so that informed choices can be made. If you wish to discuss this matter further, please contact either myself at (215) 597-8996, or Ms. Leanne Nurse, Community Relations Coordinator, at (215) 597-6920.

Sincerely,

Victor J. Janosik

Victor J. Janosik
Remedial Project Manager

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